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DESCENDANTS OF

WILLIAM LONGLEY

OF LYNN, MASS.
IN 1635

COMPILED FROM FAMILY RECORDS
AND REVISED BY ALICE LONGLEY

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THE DESCENDANTS OF

WILLIAM[1] LONGLEY

OF LYNN, MASS., 1635.

THE given name of the original Longley immigrant who settled in Lynn, Mass., as early as 1635, has been a puzzle to the antiquarians: by some authorities it is given as Richard * and by some as William.† It appears practically certain however that it was William, as shown by the court records ‡ and by a contemporaneous entry made by a Boston attorney, Thomas Lechford, § who writes under date of August, 1640, that "Willm Longley of Lynne in New England sonne & heire of John Longley late of Frisby in the County of Lincolne [England] Clerke deceased" made "a letter of Attorney" disposing of property in England. Moreover William was able to prove in 1661 that there was no Richard, but that he was the person to whom in the partition of lands in 1638, land was granted under the name of Richard. This name "Richard" therefore was a clerical error made when entering the grant on the town records.

* "Longley Genealogy." By Seth Chandler, 1884. "Elijah Longley and his Descendants." By Arthur Willis Stanford, 1909. "Genealogical Dictionary." Vol. III, p. 110. By James Savage, 1885.

† "Who Begot Thee?" By Gilbert O. Bent, 1903.

‡ Essex County Court Records. Vol. II, p. 269.

§ "Note-book kept by Thomas Lechford, Lawyer, in Boston, 1638-1641." Edited by Edward E. Hale, Jr., 1885.

William,[1] was born about 1610, married Joanna * ——, was one of the grantees of Lynn, 1638, was made a freeman there March 14, 1638/9 and bought a house and land there about 1638. He was living in Lynn in 1655 but soon after (about 1663) he removed to Groton, Mass., and was one of the first settlers of that town. He was town clerk there, clerk of the military company, selectman, and died there November 29, 1680, Æ. about 70, leaving two sons, Jonathan[2] and William[2], and four daughters.

WILLIAM,[2] whose descendants only are taken up in the following pages was born in Lynn after 1640, married Deliverance Crisp, daughter of Benjamin of Watertown and Groton. The latter married as his second wife Joanna, widow of William[1] Longley. William[2] removed to Groton with his father.

The inhuman massacre of William[2] and his family by the Indians in 1684 will long be remembered. He was then serving as town clerk of Groton, having held that office most of the time since he was first elected in 1666. "In the autumn of 1694, at a very early hour in the day, the Indians fell upon the family of William[2] Longley, residing in the northern part of the town, and killed him, his wife and five (some say eight) children and two neighbors. Then these savages carried the remaining three Longley children, Betty,[3] Lydia[3] and John[3] into captivity. Betty,[3] rather than suffer as she found she must, starved herself to death. Lydia[3] spent the rest of her days in a convent at Montreal, P. Q. John[3] (called by his captors John Augery) was about 14 years of age when taken prisoner, and had been with the Indians two years or more when he was forced to leave them, having become attached to them and unwilling to return. By the terms of the treaty all captives twenty-one years of age or more were allowed to stay or return as they might choose, while those under twenty-one were to be returned anyway.

* Called Joanna Goffe by Bent, but the evidence is inconclusive.

The house where the massacre was perpetrated was made of hewn logs and was standing at the beginning of the nineteenth century about two miles north of Groton Centre. The family were buried a few rods northwest of the house. A small apple tree marks the spot." The above information was obtained by Mr. Farnsworth, who says, "I visited this interesting spot the twenty-second of May, 1834, and got my information from Mrs. Lawrence, a resident there. I also got an old spoon found near the old house, which I now have and value highly as the only relic of my great-great-grandfather's furniture."

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JOHN[3] LONGLEY born in Groton, Mass. in 1683, after his return from captivity married Sarah Prescott, daughter of Jonas Prescott, Esq. He was town clerk of Groton in 1728, then a deacon of the church, and died suddenly in a chair, which is in the possession of Deacon Brown, whose first and second wives were granddaughters of John[3]. The following inscription marks the place of his interment: "Here lies the body of Deacon John Longley who departed this life 25th of May 1750 in the 68th year of his age." His wife Sarah died March 8, 1718, having had six children, viz., William,[4] Sarah,[4] John,[4] Jonas,[4] ——, who died in infancy, and Lydia.[4]

Deacon Longley afterward married Deborah Houghton, who had six children, viz., Zechariah,[4] who died in infancy, Joseph,[4] Jonathan,[4] Zechariah,[4] Nathaniel[4] and Robert.[4] Several lived to a great age. The second wife died November 7, 1763, Æ. 72 years.

SARAH[4] married Lieut. John Woods of Groton. She died March 28, 1772, Æ. 67 years. Her husband died May 7, 1782, Æ. 85 years.

WILLIAM[4] married Mary Parker, and lived in Shirley. He

was born at Groton February 7, 1708, died at Shirley May 15, 1788. His children were:

WILLIAM,[6] born May 23, 1738; died June 19, 1813.
SARAH,[6] born Feb. 18, 1740; died 1780.
ANNA,[6] born Mar. 10, 1742; died April 9, 1826.
LYDIA,[5] born Dec. 31, 1743; died 1828, at Turner, N. Y.
ISRAEL,[5] born Oct. 12, 1745; died, suddenly, Sept 16, 1824.
NEHEMIAH,[5] born Sept. 4, 1747; died Oct. 15, 1822, at Sidney.
MARY,[5] born Nov., 1749; died Mar. 22, 1822.
JOSHUA,[5] born July 23, 1751; died Nov. 7, 1814.
ABIGAIL,[5] born 1755; died Oct., 1758.

JOHN[4] married Betsy Patterson. He was a man of the highest respectability, a deacon in the church, the first selectman, captain, and the first representative. He died April, 1792, Æ. 83. His children were Joseph,[5] Calvin,[5] and Lucinda.[5]

JONAS[4] married Esther Patterson of Shirley, and they lived there. His wife died June 5, 1767, Æ. 67, and he never married again, living 32 years after her death. His children were seven, among whom were the following:

JONAS,[5] born Jan. 13, 1753; killed at Groton April 20, 1779, Æ. 27.
ESTHER,[5] born May 7, 1756; died 1838.
SARA,[5] born July 12, 1758.

LYDIA[4] LONGLEY married Amos Farnsworth. She died July 30, 1810, Æ. 94. Mr. Farnsworth was drowned December 5, 1775, Æ. 71, and his youngest son was drowned at the same time, Æ. 18 years.

JOSEPH,[4] born 1722; married a Walker and had four children.

He was mortally wounded at the defeat of Fort William in 1758. He had two sons:

JOSEPH,[5] born Aug. 17, 1744; died Aug., 1836. Was a great-great-grandson of William who was killed by the Indians and grandson of John the captive. He was in the French war one year and five in the Revolution, was in the siege of Ticonderoga, at the capture of Burgoyne, afterwards taken prisoner, then exchanged, regained his regiment, and was in the battle of Long Island and in that signal retreat under General Sullivan.

EDWARD[5] or Edwin, born about 1746, was living 1840.

JONATHAN[4] LONGLEY, born 1725; married Anna Bancroft, had several children, and died at the age of 40.

ZECHARIAH,[4] born 1728; married Jemima Moore and lived at Groton until after the Revolution. He was a deacon of the church and commissary in the army. After the war he removed to Norridgewock, Me., where he died June 6, 1815, Æ. 86. His wife died January 18, 1814, Æ. 83. His children were:

JEMIMA,[5] born Feb. 10, 1754; married Jonathan Stone.
ZECHARIAH,[5] born Nov. 7, 1755; married Betsy Sawyer.
SUSANNA,[5] born Jan. 8, 1758; married Lemuel Patterson.
LUCY,[5] born May 29, 1760; married Thomas Heald.
ASA,[5] born July 19, 1762; married Betsy Parker.
DEBORAH,[5] born June 5, 1764; married Perley Rogers.
LYDIA,[5] born June 4, 1766; married Ebenezer Crosby.
JOHN,[5] born Apr. 13, 1768; married Elizabeth Heald and Judith Seavee.
SARAH,[5] born Oct. 20, 1770; married William Withee.
JOSEPH,[5] born Jan. 6, 1773; married Mary Whitcomb.
BENJAMIN,[5] born Dec. 26, 1775; married Lydia Tarbell.

NATHANIEL,[4] born September, 1731; married Beulah Fair-

banks. He died November 20, 1816, Æ. 85. His wife died November, 1821.

ROBERT[4] was the youngest son of Deacon John[3] and was born at Groton 1732. He married Anna Whitcomb. He was a colonel of militia and a true Christian. He died August 10, 1802, and his wife died December, 1815, Æ. 78. Their children were:

REBECCA,[5] born 1765; died July 11, 1787, Æ. 22.
TILLY,[5] born 1772; died Aug. 17, 1790, Æ. 18.

NEHEMIAH,[5] sixth child of William Longley, married Miriam Sawtelle. Their children were:

OBADIAH,[6] born Feb. 3, 1773, at Shirley, Mass.
MIRIAM,[6] born Aug. 9, 1774, at Shirley, Mass.
NEHEMIAH,[6] born Feb. 18, 1777, at Vassalboro or Sidney, Me.
THANKFUL,[6] born Jan. 12, 1779, at Vassalboro or Sidney, Me.
MARY,[6] born Dec. 25, 1781, at Vassalboro or Sidney, Me.
RUTH,[6] born Nov. 14, 1783.
SUSANNAH,[6] born Mar. 3, 1785.
SARAH,[6] born Mar. 15, 1787.
EDMUND,[6] born Aug. 16, 1792.

OBADIAH[6] married Elizabeth Woodcock. Their children were: George,[7] Obadiah,[7] James,[7] Margaret,[7] Eliza,[7] Mary.[7]

MIRIAM[6] married Robert Ellis. Their children were: William,[7] Cary,[7] Timothy,[7] Edith,[7] Mary,[7] Miriam,[7] Nehemiah[7] and Sarah.[7]

NEHEMIAH[6] married Polly Smith. Their children were:

EDWARD,[7] born July 10, 1812.
RICHARD S.,[7] born Aug. 23, 1814.

SOLANO D.,[7] born Jan. 9, 1820.
SAMUEL,[7] born June 21, 1821.
MELITTA.[7]

THANKFUL[6] married Jotham Allen. Their children were: William[7], Ruth[7] and Isadore.[7]

MARY[6] married Benj. Sawtelle. Their children were: Jonas,[7] Elnathan,[7] Jotham,[7] Solomon,[7] Isaac,[7] Mary[7] Ann,[7] Susannah,[7] Eunice,[7] Nancy[7] and Amelia.[7]

RUTH[6] married Benj. Clifford, and their children were Elizabeth,[7] Ruth,[7] Rhoda,[7] Howard,[7] Augusta[7] and Harriet.[7]

SARAH[6] married Andrew Tinkham. No children.

EDMUND[6] married Abigail Sawtelle. Children: Selden,[7] Edmund,[7] Charles[7] and Theodore.[7]

RICHARD S.,[7] second child of Nehemiah[6] Longley, lived in Rome, Sidney, New Sharon and Mercer, Me.; married July 10, 1839, Mary A. Hersom of Rome. Their children were:

ABBIGAIL H.,[8] born at Rome, Sept. 27, 1840.
MARY E.,[8] born at Rome, July 9, 1842.
JOSEPHINE A.,[8] born at Sidney, June 22, 1844; died 1846.
JULIA V.,[8] born at Rome, Sept. 8, 1846.
ANGELINE J.,[8] born at Rome, Dec. 11, 1848.
SUSAN E.,[8] born at New Sharon, Mar. 20, 1852.
OLIVE R.,[8] born at New Sharon, July 9, 1854.
CHARLES W.,[8] born at New Sharon, Mar. 29, 1857.
BENJAMIN N.,[8] born at New Sharon, Sept. 23, 1859.

ABIGAIL H.[8] married Frank A. Clark, March 27, 1864. Their children were: Myrtie. F.,[9] George H.,[9] Arthur A.,[9] Mary O.[9]

MARY E.[8] married Geo. B. Follett, March 20, 1864. Their children were: Fred E.,[9] Elmer G.,[9] Gussie E.,[9] Wallace B.,[9] Ernest H.[9]

ANGELINE J.[8] married Josiah P. Wentworth, September 1, 1881. Their children were: Rettie,[9] Nellie N.[9]

SUSAN E.[8] married Warren G. Rand, September 12, 1876. Their children were: Gertrude E.,[9] Roxie M.[9]

CHARLES W.[8] married Ida M. Walker, November 14, 1882. Their children were: Vesta A.,[9] Alice M.,[9] Blanche W.[9]